

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 664 - SB 604

April 24, 2019

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires mandatory attendance in an alternative school for students in grades seven through twelve who have been expelled. Specifies that attendance in an alternative school is voluntary for students in grades one through six who have been suspended or expelled and for students in grades seven through twelve who have been suspended. Specifies that students attending an alternative school are subject to all the rules of the local board of education. Requires the governing body of a public charter school establish an alternative educational setting for students who have been suspended from the regular school program. Prohibits a charter school from expelling a student until the student has been placed in an alternative educational setting and requires the governing body of a local charter school to adopt policies consistent with the proposed legislation.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$3,000,000

Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$1,000,000*

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (008831): Deletes all language after the enacting clause and rewrites the bill to: (1) add “alternative program” as an option for a student to participate in who has been suspended or expelled; and (2) require students in grades seven through twelve who have been suspended or expelled to be assigned to attend an alternative school or alternative program if there is space and staff available.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-6-3402 stipulates that student attendance in an alternative school is voluntary unless a local board adopts a policy making it mandatory.

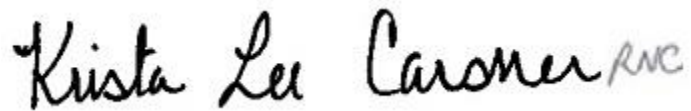
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In addition, local boards of education may enter into agreements to send students from any school system to any alternative school already in operation.

- The proposed legislation will require mandatory attendance in an alternative school, or alternative program if there is space available, for all students in grades seven through twelve who are expelled.
- Local boards of education will be able to comply with the proposed legislation within existing resources without a significant increase in expenditures.
- No significant impact to state or local operations.
- No change to the Basic Education Program.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner" followed by a stylized monogram "RLC".

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/alh